



COL. MARK CORSON is pictured with Albanian translator Eni Rista and a group of Kosovar children during tour of Kosovo with the U.S. Army in 2001.

AS AN EDUCATOR, Corson says he enjoys "giving a high energy lecture and having a discussion" with his students. Corson is an associate professor at Northwest.



photo by ashley spalding
photography editor

ACTIVE DUTY

Associate professor finds balance in life as family man, teacher and colonel

Lisa Houtchens
University News Editor

Life is a balancing act for many.

For Northwest Associate Professor Mark Corson, it is all about finding the right balance between spending quality time with his family, creating tests for his classes and serving his country.

Along with the general responsibilities that come with teaching, Corson also serves as a colonel in the U.S. Army and has a family.

"We all figure out the balance we need," Corson said. "And it is a challenge."

Dr. Corson:

Before Corson made his decision to teach at Northwest, he had the opportunity to teach at the University of South Carolina at Aiken, but instead decided to teach at Northwest after an interview with university faculty impressed him.

Corson has taught at Northwest for 11 years and during his career has spent a significant amount of time away from the University serving the United States.

When Corson is at Northwest, he teaches introduction to geogra-

phy, geography of North America, military geography and political geography along with many other courses.

"I love being in the classroom working with the students," Corson said. "And giving a high energy lecture and having a discussion."

He is able to balance his two careers and enjoys both equally.

During his time away, other faculty divide out Corson's workload, Associated Geography Professor Renee Rohs said.

"I think his involvement in the military is highly regarded in our department; and we recognize the importance of what he does for our country," Rohs said.

Colonel Corson:

"I think there is a real synergy between my civilian job and my military job," Corson said.

The military recognizes Corson has a history with political geography and it has placed him in roles such as a lead negotiator in Kosovo.

"Both sides see the synergy in the relationship," Corson said.

Schuster works with Corson and often represents him in the

Army during his time of absence. She recognizes his experience in the military and his civilian life complement each other, she said.

Corson served in the Army on active duty from 1983 to 1994 in Europe and Fort Stuart, Ga., as a tank officer. After the Cold War ended, Corson went to graduate school at the University of South Carolina for geography. A motivation for Corson's graduate work was a position at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point to teach geography.

His time at West Point opened up another door for his future.

"What I figured out at West Point after teaching full time, was that I love teaching geography," Corson said. "Just as much as I loved being in the army."

In 1994, the Army was decreasing in size, and offered Corson the option to leave the active Army and enter into the Army Reserve. The Army paid for Corson to get his doctorate in geography. After graduating, Corson taught geographic techniques to teachers in South Carolina for one year, before coming to Northwest.

Corson aided in the prevention

of a civil war between Macedonia and the Serbian boarders. He was also the Theater Movement Control Battalion Commander in the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

During Corson's time in the Army Reserve and going to college, he still had to support his wife and two daughters. Because his transition into the Army Reserve was the day after he left the active Army, he had to find a way to make money while in graduate school so he began to work. He became a transportation officer, where he supervised the loading and unloading of ships coming to port in Charleston, S.C.

When Corson moved to northwest Missouri, he continued to do various logistical jobs to support his family.

He is currently commanding the 561 Regional Support group, where he either runs a forward operating base or does multifunctional support.

In October, Corson plans to take command of the 94 Training Division that teaches course sustenance for personnel services,

See **CORSON** on A5

UNIVERSITY NEWS

Regents seek outside firm in search for new president

By Evan Young
Editor in Chief

Northwest's Board of Regents will soon begin its search for an outside firm to help the University find its next president by July 2009.

Letters will go out to five search firms, one of which will help Northwest find presidential candidates nationwide and work with the University's own screening committee to narrow those choices down.

The letters ask the firms to provide detailed company profiles, including the services they provide, how much they charge and a roster of previous clients, namely other universities, Board President Bill Loch said.

"We know there are firms out there that are more conducive to smaller universities than large universities," he said.

Responses should start trickling in over the next couple of weeks, Loch said. The regents will meet to go through company profiles and select the firm that best meets Northwest's needs. The University will allocate \$150,000 for the entire presidential search, including funds for the search company, said Ray Counter, vice president of finance and support services, at the regents' annual retreat two weeks ago.

After Northwest chooses its firm, things get relatively unpredictable, Loch said. The company and the University's search committee will likely collaborate to create a

See **REGENTS** on A5

ELECTRONIC CAMPUS

New Web portal takes time to pique student interest

By Shane Sherwood
Senior Reporter

The Web site gets 1,100 hits a day, even though many students don't know what it is.

The myNorthwest portal connects all users and allows students and faculty to check e-mail, pay their bill and check eCompanion in one site.

The site launched in May as an inclusion in the upgrade for the financial systems and human

resources system.

It required an additional two servers, costing \$25,000, Information Systems Vice President Jon Rickman said.

"MyNorthwest only cost the amount of the servers, which is about \$5,000 a year since they last five years,"

Quick Facts: myNorthwest features

- E-mail access
- University bill access
- Ligon link to eCompanion
- University organization Web sites
- Organizational updates
- Personal announcements
- Campus news and announcement
- Feature photos
- Google search
- Daily Northwest events

for updates.

Rickman said.

"Then there is one full-time faculty member allocated to it, as well."

The portal is now beyond the testing stages, Rickman said. The University has a plan for helping myNorthwest grow, including having official groups and organizations create groups and use it

"We're letting myNorthwest grow naturally," Rickman said. "It'll take time for it to be used by most students."

Auxiliary Services Director Mark Hetzler said the reason more students are not using it is because it's typically hard to change habits.

"It will probably take several years to get the usage rate we would like," Hetzler said. "We are changing to a new

See **WEB** on A5

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Rapper hits sold out PAC Friday night

By Katie Luers
Chief Reporter

Fans flocked to the student services desk Aug. 25, selling out the Tech N9ne concert within 36 hours. About 1,100 people purchased tickets for Friday's show.

Tech N9ne will return to Maryville to perform in front of a new crowd at the Performing Arts Center.

The rapper performed at Northwest about six years ago. The Student Activities Council decided to bring him back to campus after a survey showed a high interest among students.

The concert doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the concert will begin at 7:30. The only concert entrance will be the front door to the Performing Arts Center.

Tech N9ne is artist Aaron Yates from the Kansas City area. He remained an underground artist until the late 1990s and has grown consistently since then.

Tech N9ne is willing to accommodate, Sarah Smith, student activities council graduate assistant, said.

"He seems down to earth and easy to get along with," Smith said.

Many students were asking the Campus Activities Office for more information as soon as the concert was announced.

"We put up the poster, right as you're leaving the Union, and people were already coming to the office," Assistant Director of Campus Activities Candice Wolf said, "Asking 'When can I get tickets? When is he coming?'"

The ticket sale opened 8 a.m. Aug. 25 at the Student Services desk. The tickets sold out by 3:20 the following afternoon.

SAC concert committee chair Brandon Matulka said a survey was a large deciding factor for the fall concert.

The survey put out by the SAC asked students their preferred genre of music. Then it asked what artist they prefer within that genre.

"Tech N9ne was the most widely accepted by students for the price range," Matulka said.

SAC tries to rotate between genres. Last fall, the school hosted an alternative band, Hellogoodbye, and last spring a country artist, Dierks Bentley.

"A lot of people thought after the country concert that we were just going to keep bringing country artists back," Wolf said. "We're trying to show people that we're bringing in a diverse group of artists."

A lot of work goes into each concert. This fall, about 20 to 30 students are involved in the preparation. The students have worked on planning the event since July. These students are all part of the SAC organization and helped with all the concert details.

These details include providing food for the band and a place for them to stay.

Aramark is catering barbeque for the band the night of the concert, Wolf said.

Seating for the concert is on a first come, first serve basis.

There is no food or drink permitted in the Performing Arts Center, including no alcohol or tobacco. Security will check people at the door.

"Hopefully the concert will get students excited about being at Northwest," Wolf said.

OUR VIEW

Pilot participants should provide honest feedback on electronic textbooks

Since Northwest turned on the Electronic Campus more than 20 years ago, the University has developed a reputation for being one of the most tech-savvy in Missouri — from the laptops that accompany many Bearcats to class, to the mass text messages they will receive in the event of an emergency.

This year, the University hopes to take yet another technological step forward by implementing an electronic textbook program as early as the spring trimester.

Northwest, in cooperation with Sony, will pilot the Reader Digital Book (eReader) program beginning next week.

Similar to an iPod, the eReader contains a library capable of holding up to 160 downloadable, digital versions of conventional textbooks, or eBooks, along with other documents, like class syllabuses.

Combined, the eReaders and eBooks would replace the majority of conventional textbooks currently available through the University's textbook rental program. Gone would be the days of heavy backpacks and overloaded Hy-Vee paper bags during textbook pickup.

The price isn't too bad either; the University received the manufacturer's discount for the eReaders (from \$300 to \$277.50 apiece). If the pilot is successful, the institution will buy the remaining devices in bulk for a deeper price cut. Current student textbook rental fees would stay the same. University officials predict.

Northwest would become the first institution in the country to start up an electronic textbook program, according to Sony. President Dean Hubbard boldly declared he'd never buy a traditional book (textbook or otherwise) again if it were available as an eBook. The two parties firmly believe electronic textbooks will become an

educational norm in the future.

However, being the leader isn't always easy, especially when it comes to pioneering new technology.

When the Northwest community first learned about the idea, several had questions about the technology. It was a combination of curiosity and resistance; teachers and students seemed willing to give Sony a chance but hesitant to completely give up their textbooks, which are certainly more conducive to highlighting passages, making notes in the margins and supplementing text with colorful pictures and graphics.

However, Paul Klute, assistant to the president, said 50 faculty members showed interest in using eReaders for their classes. The volunteers were from a wide range of departments and classes. Classes will be chosen for the pilot based on the availability of textbooks. Then, students in those classes will receive eBooks, with the correct textbooks already downloaded.

Sony and Northwest are working on an evaluation procedure for faculty and students to complete toward the end of the trimester. Klute said quantitative data, such as test scores and final grades, would be used in addition to comments, concerns and questions.

The Northwest Missourian challenges those students and faculty to push their eReaders to the limit during the pilot. The opinions of just a fraction of the Northwest population will help determine the future of textbooks at Northwest.

We urge pilot participants to take this opportunity seriously. Provide the University with honest, thorough feedback — positive and negative — about this new technology. Electronic textbooks have the potential to lead Northwest into a new era of teaching and learning. However, the University must know it's doing the right thing for its faculty and students.

Have opinions? Want them heard?

The Northwest Missourian wants to know your take on what's going on around the campus, community, region, state, country and world.

Submit a letter to the editor via our Web site, nwmissourianews.com, our e-mail address, northwestmissourian@hotmail.com, or send it to our newsroom, 800 University Drive, Wells Hall, Maryville, MO 64468. Then, look for it on our opinion page in a subsequent issue. Letters should be between 100 and 300 words and may be edited for clarity, conciseness and correctness.

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OPINION



MY VIEW

Relations between United States, Pakistan may change if Zardari takes office

As Pakistan's presidential election nears, the United States finds itself in a delicate situation concerning the "war on terror."

Pakistan is a leading ally to the United States in the international arena, and the United States rewards the country well with their stance, giving billions of dollars to Pakistan, aiding President Bush's agenda overseas as well as Pakistan's security interests.

After Musharraf's resignation, the sources of power for a Pakistani president must again be looked at. Even though a president holds the head of state role, normally suggesting more of a traditional aspect, and less of a political one, Pakistan's president actually constitutionally claims a large amount of formal powers. These include the powers to dissolve the National Assembly, declare a state of emergency, such as Musharraf did just



Kathleen Wilmes
Contributing Columnist

to the president of Pakistan isn't such a bad thing. After all, the country is a hugely volatile area with a significant threat of terrorism. However, the area to look at isn't exactly this.

The thing to watch in the proceeding political events of a fresh Pakistani government, a new president elected to the country, and also a new

U.S. administration is the relationship between these two countries, especially in regards to how it may evolve.

Already the current relationship is becoming a little strained as the United States frets over the expected Pakistani president, Asif Ali Zardari. Zardari is the choice of the Pakistan People's Party, which controls most of the parliament. This hints at not only a large portion of formal powers, but also political powers, which can be compared to the United States political system.

Take, for example, Congress led by one party, and a president belonging to that party. A president's agenda is easier to push in this aspect.

The most frightening thing about all of this is the supposed mental instability of Zardari, and his ability to control Pakistan's nuclear weapons if he wins the presidency.

Needless to say, the United States is a little concerned, and rightfully so.

Regardless of which candidate wins the Pakistani presidential elections, the nature of the relationship between Pakistan and the United States will change, in regards to the current administration, and a new administration that will form after the U.S. presidential elections.

The deal brokered between Pakistan and the United States is already changing on Pakistan's side. In the brief five or so months of the new government, there has been an increase in the crackdown on the Taliban, and the prevention of the ease of access of militant groups on the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The interesting thing to see is if anything else changes, and whether future changes will be monumental or seemingly insignificant.

Palin stunningly wrong choice by McCain

By James Klurfeld
Newsday (MCT)

Sometimes you just have to say that the emperor has no clothes. That's the case with Sen. John McCain's reckless selection of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin to be his running mate. Palin is utterly unqualified for the job of vice president. Period.

Forget about all the political analysis of the Palin selection and commentary about her personal family situation. The fact is that her experience consists of a stint as the mayor of Wasilla, with a population under 10,000; chair of Alaska's Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, and less than two years as governor of a state that has around half the number of people of either Nassau or Suffolk County. According to what we know now, she has been out of the country twice.

There have been some stunningly poor choices for vice president over

the years, going back to Barry Goldwater's choosing an unknown New York State congressman, William Miller, in 1964, or George H.W. Bush's selection of Dan Quayle in 1988. One Republican operative who worked on that Bush campaign said the goal was to choose somebody who wouldn't overshadow Bush. "We succeeded beyond our wildest expectations," he said. But at least Miller and Quayle had some Washington experience.

I'm not making a judgment on Palin as a person. She obviously presents well, has risen quickly in Alaskan politics and has a bent for reforming government. But as vice president of the United States, a heartbeat away from running the country at a time of unusual peril? Especially for a 72-year-old presidential nominee?

The real issue here is McCain's judgment. The selection of Palin has a seat-of-the-pants, let's-throw-the-dice look that is not reassuring. Yes, it shorts up his conservative

political base. Give McCain that. But if he believes that Palin will appeal to women who supported Sen. Hillary Clinton, that's a stunningly wrong judgment. The old cliché that the most important decision a presidential candidate can make is the choice of a running mate has to give even some of McCain's supporters serious pause.

If Palin doesn't have the experience to be on a national ticket, how then do the Democrats defend Sen. Barack Obama to hold theirs? It's an absolutely legitimate question. The greatest vulnerability of Obama's candidacy is not that he is the first black nominee, although that will no doubt be a factor in the election. It is that he has spent so little time on the national scene. The greatest challenge Obama faces is convincing the American people that he is "presidential" — that he has the leadership skills to overcome his lack of experience.

But there's no comparison with Palin. Obama is a U.S. senator. He has

gone through a grueling 18-month campaign, during which he has been vetted and tested, poked and prodded as only an American presidential campaign can poke and prod and test. And he came out on top, defeating a powerful front-runner. To the degree that a presidential campaign is an appropriate measure of what type of leader a candidate will be — and I'm not sure what exactly the correlation is — Obama has been through it. His resume is also impressive: Harvard Law Review professor at the University of Chicago Law School, author of two best-selling books.

Over the years, the selection of vice president hasn't had a major impact on Election Day, although that has been less true recently. Both Al Gore and Dick Cheney had a positive impact on their tickets. But how this will play out politically isn't the point when it comes to McCain's choice of Palin. His choice of a person with no qualifications for the job, is

PUBLIC SAFETY

Aug. 15

• Hit and run, ongoing investigation, 400 block of S. Alco

Aug. 19

• Kyle J. Miller, 19, Maryville, driving without valid driver's license, 2200 block of S. Main

Aug. 20

• Hilary L. Barry, 17, Maryville, dog at large, 400 block of S. Walnut

Aug. 21

• Property damage, ongoing investigation, 1600 block of N. Grand
• Failure to comply, ongoing investigation, 200 block of W. Second

Aug. 22

• Nicholas M. Caldron, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 600 block of N. Main
• Tyler A. Roberts, 20, Maryville, minor in possession, 500 block of N. Buchanan
• Keri S. Stoner, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 300 block of W. Thompson
• Nathan J. Pederson, 20, Maryville, minor in possession, 300 block of W. Thompson

• Assault, ongoing investigation, 200 block of W. Second

• Bharath R. Kohir, 22, Maryville, driving while intoxicated, excessive acceleration, 300 block of N. Market
• Travis A. Luehje, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 400 block of S. Main

• Chelsea M. Zizza, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 400 block of S. Main

• Joseph M. Herman, 18, Maryville, minor in possession, 400 block of S. Main

• Cassandra M. Skrljac, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 400 block of S. Main

• Rachel L. Sbia, 18, Maryville, minor in possession, 400 block of S. Main

Aug. 23

• James R. Reeves, 29, Parkville, Mo., driving while intoxicated, careless and imprudent driving, 300 block of N. Market

• Elizabeth B. Steele, 19, Unionville, Mo., minor in possession, 1000 block of N. Dewey

• Property damage, ongoing investigation, 1000 block of W. Third

• Travis Rude, 21, Maryville, failure to comply, 1000 block of N. Main

• Jeremy M. Ford, 20, Maryville, permitting a peace disturbance, minor in possession, 1000 block of N. Main

Aug. 24

• Jacob T. Kaldenberg, 18, Maryville, minor in possession, 300 block of W. First

• Ryan B. Chapman, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 300 block of W. First

• Brittany M. Wisong, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, 1100 block of N. Main

• Matthew P. Crouse, 17, Maryville, driving while intoxicated, minor in possession, careless and imprudent driving, 1000 block of N. Dewey

• Richard E. Nichols, 37, Rushville, Mo., wanted on warrant, failure to appear, 400 block of N. Market

• Larceny, ongoing investigation, 1500 block of N. Main

Aug. 25

• Larceny, ongoing investigation, 400 block of W. Second

Aug. 26

• Recovered property, two bicycles, North Country Club Road

• Jennifer A. Roberts, 23, wanted on warrant, failure to appear, 400 block of N. Market

Aug. 27

• Brock S. McCoppin, 19, Maryville, minor in possession, indecent exposure, 200 block of W. Third

Aug. 28

• Eric D. Howard, 19, Maryville, excessive acceleration, 200 block of W. Fourth

• Christopher M. Lowrance, 27, Maryville, wanted on warrant, failure to appear, 200 block of W. Ninth

• Brian W. David, 24, Omaha, Neb., improper registration, failure to maintain financial responsibility, 1100 block of S. Main

• Andrea D. Morrow, 26, Maryville, making a false police report, 200 block of E. Third

Aug. 29

• Larceny, ongoing investigation, 600 block of S. Main

• Gregory Fohnson Jr., 19, Kansas City, driving while suspended, 300 block of N. Market

• Jeremiah B. Smiley, 27, Maryville, driving without valid identification, 100 block of S. Munn

Aug. 30

• Assault, ongoing investigation, 200 block of S. Main

• Jennifer A. Francka, 21, Maryville, driving while intoxicated, careless and imprudent driving

• Larceny from a motor vehicle, ongoing investigation, 100 block of S. Vine

Aug. 31

• Andrea S. Novak, 22, Maryville, driving while intoxicated, careless and imprudent driving, 100 block of E. Thompson

• Burglary, ongoing investigation, 1300 block of Country Club Road

ACCIDENTS

Aug. 20

• Ronald E. McOmmons II, 21, Maryville, collided with Hilary L. Wehrli, 20, Maryville, at the intersection of East Seventh and North Dewey, Aug. 23

• Delores A. Hall, 55, Bedford, Mo., collided with Maryellen G. Farmer, 25, Skidmore Mo., on the 1600 block of S. Main.

• Amanda J. Farmer, 21, Maryville, collided with Ellen G. Knapp, 20, Trenton, Mo., at the intersection of South Buchanan and West Halsey.

• Erin E. Iseman, 22, Greenwood, Mo., collided with Keith Eaton, Lexington, Mo., at the intersection of West 13th and North Mulberry.

Aug. 25

• Kara H. Cracraft, 25, Albany, Mo., cited for failure to yield, collided with Melvin E. Miles, 73, Fairfax, Mo., at the intersection of West First and North Country Club Road.

Aug. 26

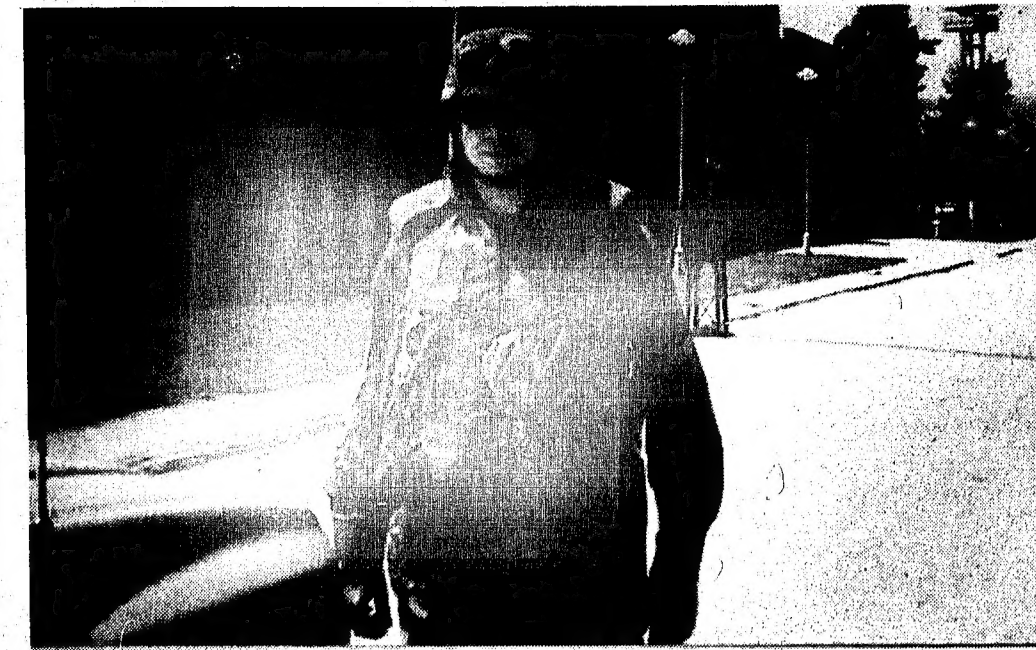
• Jacob C. Howell, 18, Bolckow, Mo., cited with failure to yield, collided with Angela K. Norris, 24, Maryville, at the intersection of West First and North Munn.

• Johnathan D. Hayes, 27, Maryville, cited with failure to yield the right-of-way, collided with Melissa A. Middlewart, 57, of Maryville at the intersection of South Buchanan and West First.

Aug. 27

• Lisa A. Boles, 33, Skidmore, Mo., collided with Jeffery R. Swan, 48, Gower, Mo., at the intersection of U.S. Business Highway 71 and West South.

CORSON: Associate professor wears many hats



MARK CORSON STANDS IN front of the IBC Battery Factory in Gilebo, Kosovo. Corson's job was to inspect for hazardous materials.

Continued from A1

quarter masters and supplying services along with many others.

The most exciting and fulfilling time of Corson's time in the army is when he commanded the battalion in Iraq, he said. During his time there, he didn't lose any of his soldiers and made a significant contribution transporting supplies to the troops, he said.

"We were engaged in making history on the ground," Corson said. "I am tremendously proud of those soldiers and tremendously proud of what they did."

Corson also negotiated the border crossing agreement with the Kuwait government. He helped to write an international agreement that eventually allowed the transportation of supplies across borders. Corson was able to make the agreement possible because of his political geography background and the communication he had with the Kuwait government, he said.

"How often do college profes-

sors, at this level, get to negotiate international agreements?" Corson said.

Corson graduated this summer from the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle Barracks in Carlisle, Pa., with a master's degree in strategic studies.

Mr. Corson: The time Corson spends with his wife Michelle, and his two daughters 16-year-old Ansley and 14-year-old Ashton is very important, he said.

When Corson is home he spends time supporting his daughters in their school activities.

His daughter's are very inquisitive but also have their goofy side, he said, which makes good balance.

This summer, Corson and his family traveled to Mexico for a week, and had discussions about the Mayans.

"My wife and two daughters are geographers at heart," Corson said.

Ruth Schuster, supervisory staff administrator for the U.S.

Army, commends Corson on the way his family is supports his dual careers.

"It is not the University that takes the grunt, it is his family who takes on the burden, and I don't know how he does it," Schuster said.

Like the Army Reserve saying "one weekend a month, two weeks a year" is the amount of time you get to spend with your family, Corson said.

Corson spends most of his weekends and most of the summers with the Army. Last year he was away from his family for about 150 days and plans for more this year.

"It is a balancing act," Corson said. "Somewhere between the army and my job (at Northwest) there is a wife and two kids."

His family understands that he will be gone for weeks or months at a time but that is part of being a military family.

"We are a military family, and they are very supportive of that," Corson said.

REGENTS: Plan of action finds no opposition

Continued from A1

profile and job description of the next Northwest president to market to potential candidates — something the institution hasn't done since President Dean Hubbard took office nearly 25 years ago.

"I'm looking forward to getting educated (by the firm) about what other universities have done in the past," Loch said.

As for the "in house" search committee, Friday was the deadline for objections to an Aug. 20 board proposal outlining its structure and makeup. None came up, so the decision automatically became final as originally proposed, Loch said.

"I didn't expect to have any objections, as I thought the board covered all the entities that play an important role (in the search) and gave them even representa-

tion," he said.

Thirteen University and Maryville representatives will serve on the committee, with Loch as its chair. The faculty, staff, current administration, Board of Regents, students, alumni and community all will have representation. Some groups already have representatives. Student Senate President Abby Freeman will serve as the students' representative, and Regents Loch and Doug Sutton make up two of the board's three representatives, the third pending Loch's appointment.

Additional letters were sent to the remaining entities' governing bodies, such as Faculty Senate and the Support Staff Council, requesting panel representatives.

Freeman said she has received inquiries from senators and constituents as to why Northwest

students will have only one representative on the committee and if there would be an opportunity for additional student input throughout the presidential search.

She discussed the matter with Loch and both agreed on the possibility of a separate student panel or forum made up of "not just senators, but all student leaders at the University," once Northwest picks its top candidates, Freeman said.

The next Board of Regents meeting is Friday, Sept. 12, where Loch will update the University and Maryville on the firm search.

"It's going to be a learning process for everyone, especially the board, because none of us have done this before," he said of the presidential search as a whole.

"We'll do the most professional job we can and represent the University well."

WEB: Portal to gain popularity, usage, hits

Continued from A1

culture. Freshmen are learning to use myNorthwest, but upperclassmen are refraining from the site because they are used to other ways to access the site.

It is more difficult to teach students who have been here for two or three years how to use the site, than a new freshman because they know other ways to do the exact same things, Hetzler said.

The site was built to get the skeleton of information out there and to keep it new and fresh, Hetzler said.

Web Applications Developer Jeremy Bauml said expectations were not set for the initial release of myNorthwest.

"We're just in the phase of making sure everything is working right," Bauml said.

For students who have used myNorthwest, the reaction has been positive. Sophomore Stormy Shively uses the site mostly for organizations.

"The groups on myNorthwest are an easy way to connect to organizations and information pertaining to them," Shively said. "It is also an easy way to get to

e-mail. There is a quick link for everything. I really enjoy it."

Freshman Shauntia Schweigert uses the site mainly to access e-mail and to pay her University bill.

"It is all located in one area. You don't have to go to a lot of different Web sites," Schweigert said.

Even students at the Missouri Academy use myNorthwest frequently, student Alex Mannion said.

"I use the site to check announcements and to access e-mail and eCompanion faster," Mannion said. "Everything is right there and it is user friendly with tutorials that help you through it."

Communication, Theater and Language department Associate Professor John Fisher also uses myNorthwest frequently.

"The biggest advantage of the site is it can be tailored to the appearance you would like," Fisher said. "However, it is more complete to change myNorthwest than a similar site called iGoogle."

Learning how to do changes in myNorthwest takes time to

experiment and play around and figure it out again, Fisher said.

The site is a good idea, but it will take a while to get used to, Fisher said.

"There are times when I go to CatPAWS, but then I think about myNorthwest," Fisher said. "It's just the very nature of things. It will get faster as they make changes to it."

The security for myNorthwest will be much more secure if public internet and private intranet are separated with only one login page that requires a username and a password," Fisher said.

Fisher said myNorthwest has many advantages, but he worries about it being too much like Yahoo.

"The one thing I want to know is if we are trying to create something that already exists," Fisher said. "If it provides different services, then people will use it. Build it and they will come."

OBITUARIES

Martha Ida Aldridge, 79, Skidmore, Mo., died Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2008, at Village Care Center in Maryville.

She was born Aug. 6, 1929, in Mannheim Germany, to Ludwig Jakob Karl Auer and Maria Magdalena (Henk) Auer, who preceded her in death.

She married Frankie Delano Aldridge on Oct. 31, 1958, in Clarinda, Iowa. Aldridge was a homemaker.

PRESS BOX: Personnel enjoy jobs

Continued from A2

be all wound up in the game and because I have to stay focused and do my job, I don't get as anxious during the game."

His voice can please or disappoint a crowd when other scores are announced from around the MIAA or other Northwest games. There may even be an announcement regarding a regional Division I game or a professional game, but when two certain teams are losing, that's when the fans go crazy.

"Anytime Pittsburg State's

being beaten, anytime Mo. West is being beaten," I know that when I announce those, people are going to jump up and down."

Working a game in the press box can be tough at times, but for Boettcher, Murphy and Sudhoff, it's a life they really enjoy.

"I'm here on Saturday working," Boettcher said with a grin as he gestures the quotations symbol. "I've got the best seat in the house and I'll know exactly how many stats Joel Osborn's thrown for before anybody else does."

Murphy smirks.

"I wouldn't call it a hard job because most of us who do this really enjoy what we do," he said. "There's instant gratification...I wouldn't call it difficult, I'd call it fulfilling."

For Sudhoff everything is a joy, announcing each play and promotion, but if he had to watch game from a different perspective, say in the stands, there would be one significant difference.

He looks out the window and laughs.

"I would get to sit with my wife."

Cuba: Gustav is worst storm to hit island in 50 years

McClatchy Newspapers

LOS PALACIOS, Cuba (MCT) — Some residents of this once-picturesque town, whose name means the palaces, have already rebaptized it: The Ruins.

Los Palacios was the first town that lay directly in the path of Hurricane Gustav when it made landfall Saturday with sustained winds exceeding 130 miles per hour and gusts of more than 200 mph.

"The devil came through here. It swept it completely," said Juan Carlos Rodriguez, who works for the municipal school management office and spent the night guarding the building.

Rodriguez estimated that 90 percent of the homes in the town were damaged and that 50 percent of the city's powerlines were down.

No deaths or severe injuries were reported, however.

"This is very sad. It's unbearable to watch," a woman said, as she burst into tears and walked away without giving her name.

Authorities called the storm damage the worst since 1956. The 212-mph gusts registered in the city of Paso Real de San Diego were the strongest in Cuba's history, according to the provincial newspaper, the Guerrillero. Winds were so strong that the weather station instruments broke.

"Things that seemed safe are damaged," Ana Isa Delgado, president of the municipal civil defense committee was quoted saying in Sunday's state media. "Cars in parking lots went flying. Others are twisted. Rooftop water tanks, window and doors have been ripped out. Avenues are unpassable."

The highway through Pinar del Rio province offers some inkling of the devastation.

Tree branches partially block the road and electric towers lie on the ground, like fallen dominoes as far as the eye can see. Entire fields of banana trees have been flattened.

At a police station, all the lampposts have toppled over and the manufactured home that

served as an office lay upside down in a ditch.

In San Cristobal, fallen branches and tree trunks blocked the main street into the town.

Many houses had lost their roofs or are flooded.

But that paled in comparison to Los Palacios, where the town was a tableau of downed power lines, shattered roofing tiles, broken masonry from ornamental columns, random bits of wood, unhinged doors, battered blue telephone booths, and corrugated metal sheets that once served as roofs.

Dogs and chickens roamed the streets.

All the windows were gone from the main school's upper floor. Many houses lost their roofs; others had collapsed completely.

"This has been the worst," Rodriguez said. "It will take us at least six months to get back to a basic level of infrastructure."

(Miami Herald correspondent Frances Robles contributed to this report from Miami.)

Republicans again face hurricane of a predicament

By Jim Tankersley
Chicago Tribune

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. (MCT) There is a certain deja vu in a Gulf Coast hurricane disrupting Republicans' best-laid plans for their national convention here in the Twin Cities. It was a hurricane, after all, that helped uproot the GOP's "permanent majority" dreams in Washington and threatens to blow it from the White House.

Only four years ago, Republicans convened in New York City to laud President George W. Bush and highlight his response — at home and at war — to the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Bush won re-election, the party held both houses of Congress, and strategists and pundits talked of the potential for decades of Republican rule in Washington.

Then came the Bush administration's much-criticized response to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and along the Gulf Coast, which seemed to unleash a run of bad news for the Republican Party: ethics scandals, a focus on pork-barrel spending, a national souring on the Iraq War, rising fuel prices, a slumping economy, declining approval ratings for Bush and a Democratic mid-term sweep of the House and Senate.

Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, comes to St. Paul this week calling himself the underdog in his race against Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.).

"You just add it all together," said Ken Khachigian, a longtime GOP strategist and former senior aide to President Ronald Reagan, "and it's sort of, no pun intended, the perfect storm."

Republican leaders now say their hopes for decades in power defied political reality. They also say that since 2004, the party has lacked the vision to solve problems and lost sight of some core principles, including fiscal conservatism and personal accountability. Most importantly, they add, this week's convention is a chance to show voters that the GOP has seen the error of its ways.

"We were in the majority, and we loused it up," said Rep. Ray LaHood (R-Ill.), an outspoken party veteran who is retiring next year. Later, he added: "We controlled the levers of government that made it very hard for people to recover from Katrina. We've learned our lesson now."

Republicans fell victim to the kind of campaign techniques that had helped Bush win re-election,

such as micro-targeting and turnout drives, said David Winston, a strategist who has worked extensively on GOP campaigns and with the House leadership when the party controlled Congress.

"We didn't do anything" with power in Washington, Winston said. "It became about taking pork back to (individual Republicans') districts and raising a lot of money to overwhelm your opponent with negative ads. ... We forgot that the reason for political campaigns is ideas, and showing voters you're ready to govern."

As a result, he said, the party lost independent voters by nearly 20 percentage points in 2006 — and lost its majority coalition in the process: "We got fired."

Winston and others say McCain is uniquely positioned to recapture that coalition because of his history of attracting independents. His challenge, they say, is to lay out the party's principles — including lower taxes, efficient government and strong national defense — and show how he would employ them to solve America's problems.

Perhaps his best opening, with independents comes on gas prices and America's energy supply. Polls show a clear majority of Americans support increased domestic drilling for oil, an issue congressional Republicans have pounded with success over the last two months.

"The American people are not terribly pro-Republican right now," said Illinois Rep. Mark Kirk, who is locked in a tough re-election fight with Democrat Dan Seals. "But when it comes to high gas prices, they want a candidate to support 'all of the above' — including drilling."

"It's common-sense solutions," said retired U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert of Illinois. "It's a whole plethora of things we need to do. The Democrats are just saying no. You can't use coal liquid, you can't build more nuclear plants — everything they want is out of a windmill, but they don't want windmills off the coast of the country."

Hurricane Gustav could drown out that message this week; it's already forced Republicans to scale back their convention plans for fear of looking insensitive. But there appears to be at least one upside for McCain: Bush, whose approval ratings hover around 30 percent, canceled his plans to attend.

(Chicago Tribune correspondent Rick Pearson contributed to this report.)



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NW FOOTBALL

Two Northwest defenders attempt to drag down Abilene Christian wide receiver Edmund Gales. The Bearcat defense surrendered 44 points to the Wildcat offense Saturday.



photo by sath cook (chief photographer)

'Cats learning from Abilene, preparing for Southwest Baptist

By Marcus Meade
Sports Editor

Last year, the Northwest-Southwest Baptist football game got out of hand quick. The Bearcats scored early and often, and the third-stringers were playing by the third quarter.

But on the heels of a 17-point loss to Abilene Christian, it seems unlikely the 'Cats are overlooking their purple counterparts.

"The motivation is plain and simple, we have to get a lot better," coach Mel Tjeerdsma said. "We've got a lot of things to work on. It doesn't make any

difference if we're playing Southwest Baptist or Missouri Western or Truman. The important thing is what we do, and how well we improve."

Tjeerdsma hopes the sting of losing might refocus his team and ultimately help them.

"When they watch the film, I would think they'd be disappointed, and most of them will be disappointed in their performance if they honestly evaluate it," Tjeerdsma said. "We have to learn from it and build on it. There's a great lesson to be learned there if we'll approach it that way."

The 'Cats' focus sits on the purple

Bearcats now, an improving team that surprised people in their season opener against Southeast Missouri.

Southwest Baptist lost their opener 35-28 in overtime, but showed improvement from last year, Tjeerdsma said. Running back Jeff Finnell rushed for 111 yards on 20 carries, while the Baptist defense registered seven sacks.

Part of their improvement comes from an improved defensive line, Northwest senior offensive lineman Matt Nelson said.

"They're (Baptist) a bunch of

See NW FOOTBALL on B2

MHS FOOTBALL

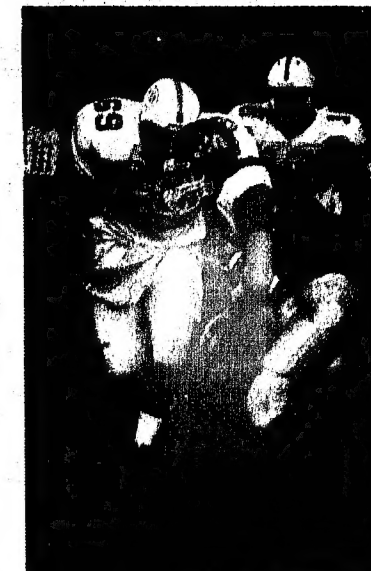


photo by sath cook (chief photographer)

SENIOR JOHN FARMER takes on a Hickman Mills defender in Maryville's 34-25 victory Friday.

Big win leads 'Hounds to Irish

By Christopher Woodland
Community Sports Editor

The Maryville Spoofhounds head to Lafayette this week with a 1-0 record and momentum after taking down a class four playoff team.

The 'Hounds defeated Hickman Mills 34-25 last Friday behind the running of seniors John Farmer and Adam Mattson. Maryville shut down Hickman Mills' offensive attack in the second half after battling to earn a 20-19 halftime advantage.

Maryville did lose junior nose tackle Jason Davis in the first quarter with a MCL strain. He is expected to miss a couple weeks.

They played conservatively on defense last week since Farmer, filling in for injured starter Derek Johns, practiced on defense for the first time in two years.

"We ran a pretty basic cover package last week," coach Chris Holt said. "The defensive coaches can probably expand the cover packages this week now that he has an extra week in there."

Farmer had several big runs and made a big hit on a Hickman Mills wide receiver late in the fourth quarter that caused an incomplete pass. "After I started to learn it (playing cornerback), I remembered a lot of it, and it all kind of started to come back to me," Farmer said. "The extra week will help a lot. I know a lot of the stuff, but I'm still learning a bunch."

The 'Hounds held the Cougars' offense mostly in check, but several big plays by Hickman Mills kept them in the game up until Maryville recovered an onside kick by the Cougars with just more than two minutes remaining. A 48 yard Hickman Mills screen pass led to the onside kick, and was one spark for an otherwise stagnant Cougar offense produced.

"We've got to do a better job of defending the deep ball," Holt said. "We didn't do a very good job defending the deep ball Friday night. We need to get a little more pressure on the quarterback, and maybe get a little more creative with our blitz schemes. We can't have mental breakdowns in the secondary. For the most part we did pretty good, but we let some things get by."

This week, the 'Hounds play St. Joseph Lafayette. Lafayette's spread offense outscored Central (Kansas City) High School 28-12 in the second half but still managed to lose 45-35.

Offensively, the 'Hounds do not anticipate changing their game plan much for Lafayette.

"We're just going to do what we do," Holt said. "We're going to come out and run the football and establish the line of scrimmage. If they give us something in the passing game, we will take it, but we're content to keep it on the ground."

The 'Hounds kickoff against Lafayette at 7 p.m. Friday in St. Joseph.

JUMP BANDS

NW SOCCER

Hoza's bunch start 2-0

By Christopher Woodland
Community Sports Editor

Two was a mystical number for the Northwest soccer team this past weekend.

Two players scored a total of two goals in two 2-0 victories to open the season.

Junior forward Andrea Tritz and senior midfielder Holly Rameaker scored a goal a piece against both Southwestern Oklahoma State and Newman (Kan.) last weekend. Junior goalkeeper Kira Lazenby recorded four saves and didn't allow either opponent to score.

"A big part of it was communication," Rameaker said. "I think a big part of goals is who assists it. On my second one, Krista (Pollman) gave me a perfect ball in the right direction, and I just headed it in."

The Bearcats did lose sophomore midfielder and co-captain Heidi Sobota for the year to a knee injury. After sitting out all of last year following a transfer, Sobota didn't even make it to halftime of their first game before injuring her knee. Sobota is the second midfielder the 'Cats have lost to injury in two weeks.

Senior Shannon Fitzgerald aggravated a nagging knee injury a little more than a week before Sobota's injury and was given a medical red-shirt for the season.

Coach Tracy Hoza feels the 'Cats have a qualified substitute for Sobota in sophomore Whitney Macken.

"Whitney was pushing for a starting sport and a lot of playing time over summer," Hoza said. "Now she's going to have to play a lot more than she anticipated with Heidi gone for the season."

Hoza likes what she saw from her team in the first two games despite the injuries, and thinks they are becoming a better all-around team.

The defense played well while recording two shutouts to open the season, and offensively, they attacked the goal well, Hoza said.

Like any coach, though, she did see room for improvement.

"We need to make less mistakes, like passing when we shouldn't be," Hoza said. "There are a few things defensively too, like when to clear the ball out or when not to clear the ball out."

The 'Cats play their first home games of the season this weekend in the Bearcat Classic. They open their home schedule Friday against Northeastern (Oklahoma) State.

The Riverhawks won their first game of the year 5-2 over Harding University. They finished last season 6-13-1, including a 1-0 loss to Truman State and a tie with Central Missouri.

Sunday's game matches the 'Cats against Wayne State who went 1-15-3 in 2007 and has started 0-2-1 in 2008.

The 'Cats play Northeastern State at 2 p.m. Friday at Bearcat Pitch and Wayne State at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Bearcat Pitch.

Battle of the BANDS



photo by sath cook (chief photographer)

THE BEARCAT FOOTBALL team lines up to work with Joe Quinlin's Flex Bands. Quinlin used the bands before being named the team's new strength and conditioning coach. The giant rubber bands were created by Dick Hartzell in the early 1980s. Hartzell is the strength and conditioning coach at Youngstown State University.

Quinlin introduces flexible new training system to Bearcat athletes

By Christopher Woodland
Community Sports Editor

The press box casts a shadow across the western half of Mel Tjeerdsma Field as a group of freshmen football players stagger off and begin changing out of their cleats.

"It feels like dynamite is strapped to my legs," freshman running back Ben Pritchett said. "It's like I've got 10 pounds of C-4 strapped to them. I think my legs are going to explode."

For most of the freshmen, this was the first time training with Northwest strength and conditioning coach Joe Quinlin's signature addition to Bearcat athletics, giant rubber bands.

Band Benefits

Flexibility

Explosiveness

Strength

Endurance



Athletes of nearly every sport and level have begun using the bands in one form or another. Their versatility allows for a variety of different lifts, stretches and other workouts to be derived from the simple design.

For the one described above Quinlin has each player grab a band from his office in the weight room and line up on the goal line on the football field.

Each participant ties their band to their partner's and runs repeated 10-yard sprints that include side shuffles, back-peddles and straight ahead sprints with their band strapped around their waists.

While one partner runs, the other applies resistance by leaning back on their end.

"It feels like you're doing an hour long running workout compressed into about five minutes," wide receiver Clark Snodgrass said. "It just puts so much more stress on your muscles and your breathing and everything like that, but in the end, it's going to make you a lot more explosive."

The rubber bands, or Flex Bands by Jump Stretch, are an addition to physical fitness that Youngstown State University's Dick Hartzell created in the early 1980s.

Hartzell set place-kicking records at Youngstown State in the early 1960s. He has

since coached athletes at every level of competition and currently resides as the strength consultant for all YSU athletics.

The Flex Band has gained tremendous popularity in the 25 years since its creation. Athletes at every level and all forms now use the giant rubber bands for a number of desired effects.

In the Northwest weight room, the football team can be seen using these bands to strengthen their calves, work on their squats, do some rows, etc.

Quinlin and the Bearcat football team seek increased muscle stamina as a primary benefit with the type of training they do with the bands.

"It builds up endurance in the muscles that will help them keep going late in games," Quinlin said. "It gets your heart rate up so high that it does a lot more than just going out and jogging or something."

Flex bands have value outside the world of football as well. The Northwest volleyball team trains with them also, but in a different way.

"We use them mainly for stretching," Northwest volleyball coach Anna Tool said. "It's just a really good way to increase flexibility, but over the summer they use it as part of their workout routine. You can do a full body workout with

See JUMP BANDS on B2

NW VOLLEYBALL

Tool's team splits during weekend tourney

By Brian Bosiljevac
University Sports Editor

After a 2-2 start, the Northwest volleyball team hopes consistency can lead to a more successful outing this weekend.

The Bearcats became the comeback kids of the Nebraska-Omaha's Comfort Inn & Suites and Firewater Grille Tournament, last Friday and Saturday.

After losing their first match both Friday and Saturday, the 'Cats rallied back to win their second matches both days.

"It was really good to see us bounce back after both of our losses to get the wins each day," coach Anna Tool said. "Now, we just have to get that win early on as well."

On Friday, the 'Cats lost the opening match to Michigan Tech, 3-1. They then went on to beat Minnesota-Crookston 3-1 later that night.

Two of the 'Cats who shined on Friday were junior co-captain Rachel Nisi and sophomore Amber Ryan.

Nisi recorded the 12th and 13th double-double of her career, scoring double-digit figures in both kills and digs in both of Friday's games.

Amber Ryan, whom Tool said was the most consistent player of the weekend, also stood out.

"We need to be able to push the ball

to her even more when she is playing that good," Tool said.

Ryan hit above .300 in both of the 'Cats' Friday games. In their first match, Ryan hit .316 and added nine kills to the team's total while in the second match she hit a career best .524 and had 12 kills.

"In practice, we have been working on running quicker hits, and I think that definitely carried out onto the court," Ryan said.

Saturday showed similar results after losing to Minnesota State-Moorhead, 3-0, the 'Cats rebounded to defeat Mary (N.D.), 3-1.

Ryan made it three in a row as she hit above .300 once more in the loss to Minnesota State-Moorhead.

Ryan played consistently, but it was true freshman Alex Hanna who stole the show in the win over Mary (N.D.), Tool said.

"It was nice to see all of our hard work in practice pay off," Hanna said. Hanna had a tournament high 18 kills against Mary (N.D.). She also hit a strong .412 for the match.

"I think, overall for our first tournament, we did pretty good," Ryan said. "When we got going, we did really good but there is definitely room for improvement."

The 'Cats hope to make those improvements in time for their tourna-

ment in Joplin Mo., this weekend.

"When we get on a roll, it is really hard to stop us," Ryan said. "We need to be able to stay motivated when we get on a roll like that."

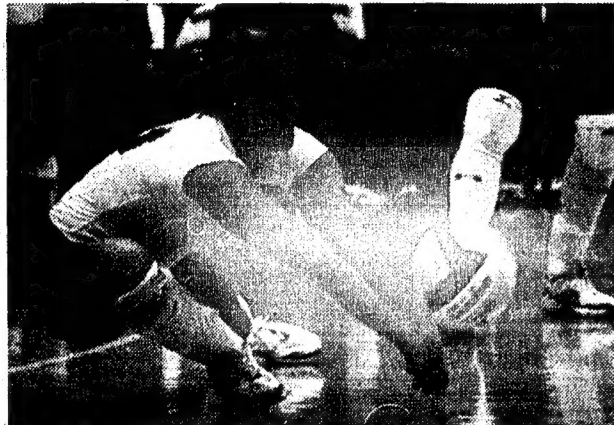
Tool thinks in order to compete with the four teams they will face in the Missouri Southern Invitational, they need to be sharper on the court and develop more persistence.

The four teams that stand in the 'Cats' way are Drury (Mo.), Midwestern State (Texas), Central Oklahoma and Dallas Baptist.

Drury finished the 2007 season with a 15-15 record, and the 'Cats swept Dallas Baptist 3-0, in their match last season.

The two teams the 'Cats need to keep an eye on are the teams who performed well in the Lone Star Conference last year.

Central Oklahoma finished the season with 32-7 record and advanced to the national tournament semifinals, but they are struggling to replace their two best players from last season,



OUTSIDE HITTER PAIGE Spangenberg moved from her position as a libero last year. Spangenberg helped the 'Cats go 2-2 with 14 kills last weekend.

including their All-American libero, Mari Araujo.

The Broncos are already off to a 0-4 start this season.

Midwestern State finished last year 27-6. They also made the school's first appearance in the NCAA Division II Southwest Regional tournament. The Mustangs went 4-0 in their first tournament.

The 'Cats start off the tournament at 4 p.m., Friday, in Joplin, with their opening match against Drury (Mo.).

"I expect us to be competitive with every team we see," Tool said. "I am confident that we can go in there and put up a strong showing. I fully expect us to walk away 4-0."

SCORE BY QUARTER

(1-0) 7 10 20 7 — 44



(0-1) 21 0 0 6 — 27

TEAM STATISTICS

Northwest	Abilene Christian
402	Total yards 516
71	Total plays 64
73	Rushing yards 223
23	Rushing attempts 39
4-2	Fumbles-lost 1-1
329	Passing yards 293
48	Passing attempts 25
1-11	Sacks-yards lost 2-16
29-48-0	Comp.-Att.-Int. 18-25-0
4-187	Punts-yards 4-140
57	Off yards per play 8.1
23	First Downs 22
8-61	Penalties-yards 10-75
0-0	In-yards 0-0
30-13	Third downs 5 of 10
3 of 5	Fourth Downs 0



RUNNINGBACK LARON COUNCIL takes the ball into the endzone for the Bearcats Saturday.

Baptist: Team looks to make improvements

Continued from B1

hardworking kids," Nelson said. "There's some good athletes, but they're not stacked on athleticism. But they're all going to work hard, fly to the ball, try to rip the ball out and try to get up field on pass rush.

To see success Saturday, the 'Cats may need to improve their defensive line play. Northwest surrendered 177 yards to Wildcat running back Bernard Scott last weekend and didn't spend much time in the Wildcat backfield after the first quarter.

Abilene Christian's no-huddle offense gave the 'Cats trouble, Tjeerdema said, but he's confident the defense will improve in time for Baptist who also runs an up tempo offense.

Safety Myles Burnside hopes the defense can make the adjustments necessary to compete with teams like Abilene Christian. He saw a move toward press coverage, a tactic the 'Cats used more as the game went on, as a step in the right direction.

"We have depth at the corner position," Burnside said. "We have a lot of corners that can come in and play with anybody. It was evident in that at the end of the game when we were kind of struggling to try to get back in the game and make some plays, we switched to some man coverage, and I think we did pretty well."

The game against the purple Bearcats begins at 6 p.m. Saturday at Bearcat Stadium, and though people will expect Northwest to repeat their performance from last year, it may come down to focus during the game and in the week leading up to it.

"We knew Abilene was a great team, and we should have come out more focused," Nelson said. "I felt like we were focused in the first quarter, but I think we kind of lost that, got a little lack luster and didn't keep going after them. We definitely need to stay more focused during practice and during the game."

Bands: Versatility makes bands useful for all sports

Continued from B1

them. You can do lower body, and you can do upper body." The volleyball team is one of the bands shows another aspect of the bands' versatility.

They stretch with them after every game to keep their muscles loose and flexible.

"It's nice for some sports where you're not necessarily looking to gain a lot of size," Quinlin said. "You know in football you're looking to bulk up, but in basketball, volleyball and even baseball where you want to keep that range of motion, they are very useful."

In addition to training college athletes, Quinlin also introduced several high school athletes to the bands in camps during the past five years. Maryville High School is among the schools he visits.

While there are definite benefits to the Jump Stretch Bands, some strength and conditioning coaches are more cautious when it comes to training with the bands, and don't subject their athletes to many of the more rigorous exercises.

"I think it definitely has application in the arena of sports from the acceleration standpoint," University of Missouri strength and conditioning coach Josh Stoner said. "It teaches the body how to resist and overcome. It's something that's really, really important to sports. From a usage standpoint though, we only use them on athletes who are ready. You have to be able to bench and squat a little bit before you're ready to use the bands."

The Tigers limit their usage of the bands primarily to stretching and increasing flexibility, Stoner said.

The 'Cats use a similar methodology when the season begins, because Quinlin recognizes the additional strain working out with the bands can have on an athlete's body.

"In the off-season, we do a lot of plyometrics with them, but during camps and the season, their bodies are so tore down we don't use them as much," Quinlin said.

Flex bands may have earned a permanent spot in the world of sports training. San Diego Chargers strength and conditioning coordinator Jeff Hurd has close ties with Quinlin and now uses Flex Bands with the Chargers, Quinlin said.

"A lot of guys kind of laugh at them at first," Quinlin said. "They kind of look at them and say 'How is that thing going to help me?'"

NW CROSS COUNTRY

Team ready to host meet, anxious to run

By Dustin Sander
Assistant Sports Editor

After months and months of running, lifting, and hard work, and even more running, the Northwest cross country team finally kicks off its season this Saturday.

The Bearcats started preparing for this season since track season ended at the beginning of the summer. Coach Scott Lorek said the team took about two weeks off after track season ended.

This year, the 'Cats began preseason training around June 1.

"We are going to go out and test the waters and just have some fun with it," Senior Daniel Pescador said.

Lorek is planning on learning a lot from the team's first race.

"I want to find out how tough we are mentally, and if we are competitive," Lorek said. "Our fitness will improve, I know we'll get faster, but we have to jump on the mental part right away."

The 'Cats worked in camps and individually over the summer. Lorek thinks his team did a great job preparing for this season individually and as a team.

"We have seen some

fast improvements which means they all worked hard in their summer workouts," Lorek said.

Sophomore Madison Marshman thinks camp is worth a lot more than just everyone getting better.

"In camp, we come much closer together as a team, and we can learn about each other, like who we can run with and who can push us," Marshman said.

Some on the team hold optimistic outlooks for such a young team.

"We raised our team potential and we can shoot for one of the top three spots to move onto nationals," Pescador said.

Last season, no Northwest runners advanced from regionals to nationals. Anna O'Brien finished only one spot from qualifying. O'Brien is back this season but she will red shirt giving her the chance to train this year and compete next fall.

"We have a strong team with a lot of new freshmen and older girls too," Marshman said.

As far as individual achievement goes, Pescador and Marshman both want to set personal records.

The 'Cats begin the season Saturday at home at the Bearcat/Spoofhound Open on the practice fields near the high-rise dorms and the baseball field.

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SPOOFHOUNDS

MHS GOLF

Van de Ven leads group in tough weather to second victory of year



photo by Marcus Meade | sports editor

SENIOR KIM HANNA drives the ball onto the fairway at the fifth hole of Moxingo Lake Golf Course, Tuesday. Hanna finished the day as the Spoofhound's third highest scorer.

By Marcus Meade
Sports Editor

As a team, Maryville High School girls' golf kept things consistent Tuesday.

Finishing one stroke better than their first match, the 'Hounds defeated Tarkio and North East Nodaway with a new mix of best scores. This time around, Amy Van de Ven took the meet's top honors with a score of 42 after struggling in their first match. In the end, the 'Hounds came out way ahead with a total score of 204, 22 strokes better than runner-up Tarkio.

"Amy just needed to buckle down," coach Brenda Ricks said. "She's very capable. I expect her to hit in the low 40s or high 30s even."

Van de Ven made a few strategic decisions to counteract the high winds at Moxingo Lake Golf Course and take the top spot.

"I was just more focused I think," Van de Ven said. "I had a bad week last week, but I normally shoot anywhere from a 42 to a 46."

Ricks saw improvement over the last week in all her golfers by having them focus on things they struggled with in their

first match. For some, that meant working on swing mechanics at the driving range. For others, that meant time spent on the practice green.

But practice couldn't prepare the 'Hounds for the tough weather they faced Tuesday. High winds and rain caused a change in some golfers' games, senior Kim Hanna said. She led the team in scoring during its first match with a 49 and finished third on the team with a 56 this round.

"If the wind's against you when you drive, it sucks because it pulls your ball the other way," Hanna said. "The rain just makes it hard because you have to put on more clothes so you can stay dry, and that makes it harder for your swing."

Ricks spent time during the meet talking to golfers about course etiquette and other wrinkles that might help them when districts arrive in October.

Districts seems like an easier path for the 'Hounds this year with Savannah, last year's winner, out of Maryville's district. Savannah also provided last year's individual winner.

The 'Hounds continue their season today in St. Joseph against Lafayette.

MHS VOLLEYBALL

Team grabs 2-0 sweep of East Buchanan despite pre-game jitters

By Brian Bosiljevac
University Sports Editor

After a great start, the Maryville volleyball team is looking for more.

Tuesday night marked the beginning of the 2008 season for the Spoofhounds. Despite a few nerves, the 'Hounds gained their composure and took care of business against East Buchanan.

"We were all really nervous," outside hitter Jessica From said. "We all had to come together and take a deep breath before the game started."

The 'Hounds took the first two

games from East Buchanan in a best of three series, with scores of 25-11 and 25-20, in games one and two respectively.

Samantha McGinness led the team in assists with 15. She also added three straight aces in the second game to secure the win for the 'Hounds.

Tracy Jensen registered the most kills for the 'Hounds with four. She also added two blocks and an ace of her own.

"This was a good first, big step towards district champs," coach Lori Klaus said. "They (East Buchanan) are

actually in our district. So, it was nice to get to see them because we have never played them before. I told the girls everyday in practice that every game is one more tiny step toward districts. It's nice to start off winning and gain a little confidence."

Although the scores indicated a somewhat close match, the 'Hounds remained in control.

"It was a positive game for us," libero Leah Bostwick said. "We had a few minor let downs, but we will work on those and fix them in practice. Overall, it was a good first game for us."

Some of the minor let downs came with the teams consistency and the inability to cover the floor as well as they should, From said.

After the 'Hounds fell short of districts last year, they are making adjustments to make sure they don't repeat a similar ending this season.

Klaus is inserting new plays in the 'Hounds game plan this year.

"It was really exciting to see them run the plays we had been working on in practice, but not yet put into a game," Klaus said. "They ran them tonight, and we got some kills off of them. That was pretty exciting to

watch." Even after the success of their first game the 'Hounds are not satisfied.

"They are all really excited," Klaus said. "But it was good to see them say they still have things to work on. It was exciting to know that they have the confidence that they're going to win, but they know that they aren't perfect, and they have things to work on."

The 'Hounds will take the court today at the Fairfax Tournament.

"We are all really excited," From said. "We can't wait for more intense games and more competition."

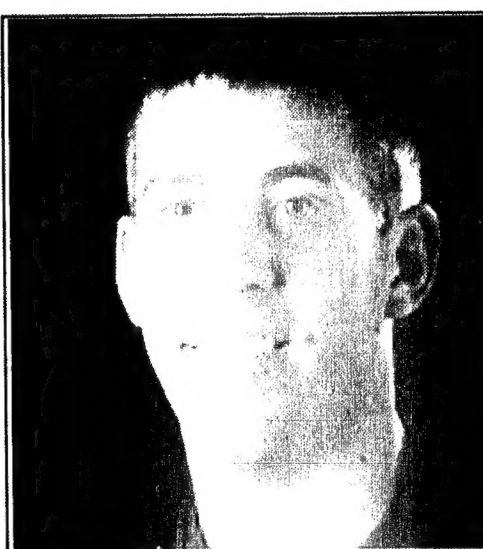


photo by Seth Cook | sports editor
JUNIOR MIDDLE BACK Tracy Jensen records a kill in Tuesday night's sweep of East Buchanan.

NWMSU & MHS

Athletes of the Week

Joel
Osborn



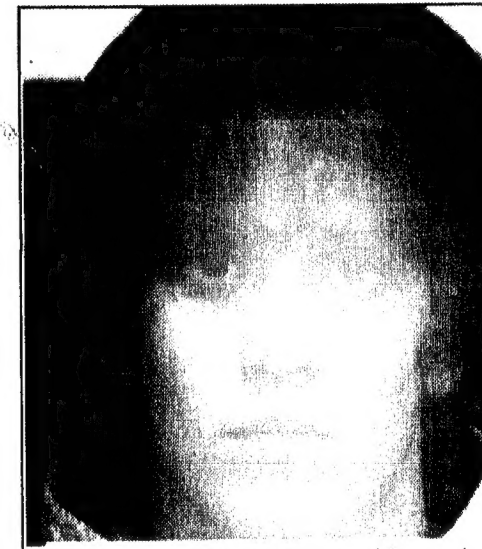
The senior captain threw for 325 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions last Saturday against Abilene Christian. Osborn went 28-46, throwing more in the second half when the Bearcats fell behind. He was the starter from day one for the 'Cats after splitting time with Josh Mathews during the first half of last season. Osborn hails from Harlan, Iowa where he was named 2004 Iowa State Athlete of the Year.

Amber
Ryan



Ryan led the Bearcats with 36 kills from her middle-hitter position over the weekend. She posted a hitting percentage over .300 in three straight matches, and led the team with eight blocks. Ryan made the move to middle hitter this year after playing the outside last season. Middle hitter is her original position, which coach Anna Tool thinks suits her well. The 'Cats went 2-2 last weekend in tournament play.

John
Farmer



The senior led Maryville in rushing, and moved all around the field often as a lead for the Spoofhounds against Tarkio. Farmer saw snaps at both wingback and tailback for the 'Hounds and managed a touchdown run in the second quarter. His performance in the backfield, and filling in at corner for the injured Derek Johns, allowed Maryville to topple a school two classes larger than them.

Tracy
Jensen



Jensen led Maryville with four kills in Tuesday's match-up against East Buchanan. She also added two blocks and an ace to the Spoofhound's total. Jensen has made huge strides since the offseason. Coaches were unsure if Jensen would make the varsity squad this summer. She battled back to become a key figure on the team. Her efforts helped the 'Hounds complete a two game sweep of the Bulldogs.

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Wal-Mart Field at Arrowhead coming soon

For 35 years, Chiefs fans have attended games religiously. For 35 years, the fans have filled seemingly every seat every game and have even broken NFL records. For 35 years grown men have cheered, cried and rode an emotional roller coaster that is incomparable in anything else in the world.



Dustin Sander
Asst. Sports Editor

Between now and 2010, the name will no longer be Arrowhead Stadium. My prediction for the new name is Wal-Mart Field... at Arrowhead Stadium.

The new name will have Arrowhead included, in accordance with founder Lamar Hunt's wishes. The name change would not be in the best wishes of Hunt. He was open in expressing his wishes to keep the title corporation free.

The other consistency of the last 35 years is every one of those things happened at Arrowhead Stadium.

Now, the front offices decided to sell the naming rights. That is going to change very soon.

In 2001, the Denver Broncos were set for completion in 2010 and selling the naming rights of the stadium will bring in about \$6 million annually.

No one should start shopping for a new team to fall in love with quite yet though. The Chiefs have tried selling the naming right before and were unsuccessful. So, this time around we'll see how it all works out.

I'm not a grump old man who hates everything to do with change. I love change, and I'm very excited the stadium is undergoing renovations. But I don't think the name is in any need of a renovation.

Once the name is changed, it will lose its mystique. Every time I walk through the parking lot of Arrowhead, I get the same feeling in my stomach that can never be reproduced. I am very sad knowing my children may grow up without that feeling, attending Wal-Mart Field instead of the storied Arrowhead Stadium.

Arrowhead is currently undergoing some major and very expensive renovations. The new renovations are set for completion in 2010 and selling the naming rights of the stadium will bring in about \$6 million annually.

No one should start shopping for a new team to fall in love with quite yet though. The Chiefs have tried selling the naming right before and were unsuccessful. So, this time around we'll see how it all works out.

WHAT TO WATCH

Marc's TV picks

Friday

• Navy at Ball State, ESPN, 6 p.m. — Tune in for a little old time option fun. This game should be good for Navy vets and Nebraska fans stuck in the past.

Days rating (2 of 5)

Saturday

• West Virginia at East Carolina, ESPN, 3:30 p.m. — ECU did it for me last week in an upset. Will they do it again?

Days rating (4 of 5)

Sunday

• Chicago at Indianapolis, NBC, 7:15 p.m. — Peyton Manning's expected back. I bet the Bears wish he could play all-time quarterback.

Days rating (5 of 5)

Brian's TV picks

Friday

• The Karate Kid, AMC, 7 p.m. — Take a trip down memory lane with Danielson and Mr. Miyagi.

Days rating (4 of 5)

Saturday

• Texas A&M at New Mexico, 4 p.m. — After a horrible home-opener loss to Arkansas State, tune in to see if the Lobos can kick the Aggies while they're down.

Days rating (3 of 5)

Sunday

• Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets, ESPN, 7 p.m. — Watch as my Mets hopefully start to close the door in the NL East. Maybe then I can make it through a game without hearing about the September collapse of '07.

Days rating (5 of 5)

Woody's TV picks

Friday

• Indiana Pacers at New York Knicks ESPN Classic 2 p.m. — This is a great playoff game from when the NBA was actually worth watching.

Days rating (2 of 5)

Saturday

• Notre Dame vs. San Diego State NBC 2:30 p.m. — Love 'em or hate 'em, everyone is at least slightly interested in whether Charlie Weis will be riding his golf cart around the Notre Dame campus next year.

Days rating (4 of 5)

Sunday

• The Wedding Singer, VH1, 7 p.m. — After seeing Peyton Manning in commercials all day, I couldn't tolerate watching him for another three hours in the Sunday night game.

Days rating (3 of 5)

Dustin's TV picks

Friday

• Hard Knocks with the Dallas Cowboys, HBO, 8 p.m. — I am a big fan of the Hard Knocks series and even though I liked last season with the Chiefs, I will be watching the Cowboys.

Days rating (2 of 5)

Saturday

• Miami at Florida, ESPN, 7 p.m. — I despise both of those teams, but a rivalry like this, this early in the season when every other team is playing cupcake matches, this is a must watch.

Days rating (3 of 5)

Sunday

• Kansas City at New England, CBS, noon — I'm not really expecting this to be a great game, but I have my hopes for the Chiefs and I am very excited to see this season kick off and to see what I can expect for the future.

Days rating (5 of 5)

POWER RANKINGS

MIAA

Team	Record	Notes
1. Nebraska-Omaha	0-1	Move up through stagnation
2. Northwest	1-0	They were on top until the ACU loss
3. Pittsburg State	1-0	Scraped by, but still underrated
4. Washburn	1-0	A tough MIAA team with a nice win
5. Missouri Western	1-0	Shootout win for Griffins
6. Central Missouri	1-0	Physical team held Minn. St. in check
7. Missouri Southern	1-0	Took down Harding in a shootout
8. Fort Hays State	1-0	Pitched a shutout last week
9. Emporia	1-0	Got a few votes in the AFCA poll
10. Truman	1-0	Game was cancelled. No one noticed

MEC

Team	Record	Notes
1. Maryville	1-0	Possibly the best class 2 team in the state
2. Chillicothe	1-0	Platte Co. left and they are the next best team
3. Savannah	1-0	Horrible last year, but great start this year
4. Cameron	0-1	Big loss in new coach's first game
5. Smithville	0-1	Got killed last week against stiff competition
6. LeBlond	1-0	Newcomer to the MEC, we'll see how they do
7. Benton	1-0	Only beat Savannah and Lafayette last year
8. Lafayette	0-1	They were losing 33-7 by halftime

Results from last week

1. Nebraska-Omaha didn't play	
2. Northwest lost to Abilene Christian	44-27
3. Pittsburg State beat Central Oklahoma	16-12
4. Washburn beat Colorado Mines	27-3
5. Missouri Western beat Northern St.	38-27
6. Central Missouri beat Minn. State	29-9
7. Missouri Southern beat Harding	45-31
8. FHS beat New Mexico Highlands	44-0
9. Emporia beat Western State	42-0
10. Truman didn't play	

Results from last week

1. Maryville beat Hickman Mills	34-25
2. Chillicothe beat Marshall	48-14
3. Savannah beat Trenton	37-21
4. Cameron lost to Excelsior Springs	45-15
5. Smithville lost to Pleasant Hill	28-0
6. LeBlond beat Mid Buchanan	21-15
7. Benton beat Grandview	13-12
8. Lafayette lost to Central (Kansas City)	45-35

SPORTS STAFF GAME PICKS

Marc's picks

Prediction record (2-2)
NCAA Lock
W. Virginia at E. Carolina — WV ECU got it done for me last week. It almost pains me to do this to them, but West Virginia won't make the mistakes Va. Tech made. Plus, Pat White's real fast.

NCAA Upset
Kent St. at Iowa St. — Kent St. I don't know anything about Kent State, but I know Iowa State sucks. That's enough for me. If nothing else, I'll get a laugh out of watching the powerhouse program of Kent State make former sports editor Scott Levine's Cyclones look like fools.

NFL Lock
Washington at N.Y.G. — Giants Did anyone see Washington in the preseason? They were terrible. Quarterback problems, defense problems. They've got more problems than Michael Vick at a PETA picnic.

NFL Upset
Tampa at New Orleans — Tampa Jeff Garcia's a winner. To bet against him would be lunacy. I like Tampa as a sleeper team this year. They don't need Brett Favre. If anything he needs them now.

Brian "The Bulldog's" picks
Prediction record (2-2)
NCAA Lock
Minn. U. at Bowling Green — BG After the huge upset at Pittsburgh, I think Bowling Green has the momentum to give them a week two victory.

NCAA Upset
BYU at Washington — BYU QB Max Hall threw for 486 yards last week and led the Cougars to 563 yards of total offense. BYU currently leads the nation with the longest winning streak at 11. After upsetting the Huskies, they make it 12.

NFL Lock
Cincinnati at Baltimore — Cincy I wish Joe Flacco luck and hope he ends up having a great NFL career. But I think nerves get the best of the ex-Deleware QB and he falls flat on his face in his NFL debut. Carson Palmer and Chad Jaxon Ocho-Cinco bring home the win.

NFL Upset
Detroit at Atlanta — Atlanta Lions continue to suck and I'll take the other rookie QB, Matt Ryan, with the win. Ryan brings both Falcon Fans and PETA activists a new outlook on life in Atlanta.

Woody's picks
Prediction record (1-3)
NCAA Lock
Connecticut at Temple — UConn UConn is a team to watch in the Big East this year. Most people forget about them beating winning nine games last year. Donald Brown is a solid running back who scores four TDs last week. Lets face it, even if UConn wasn't a team on the rise, they are playing Temple.

NCAA Upset
Northwestern at Duke — Duke I don't have much of a reason for picking this upset. Basically Dustin stole my Rice at Memphis upset and Marc stole my Kent St. at Iowa St. This fit the spread guidelines.

NFL Lock
Denver at Oakland — Denver Jay Cutler is poised for a breakout year passing to Brandon Marshall, but the Raiders have solid cornerbacks. The Raiders also have no offense. The Broncos running game and overall offensive balance will be the difference.

NFL Upset
Arizona at 49ers — 49ers So, Arnez Battle is the 49ers leading returning receiver, old small-hands Alex Smith is out and J.T. O'Sullivan is in at quarterback.

Dustin's picks
Prediction record (4-0)
NCAA Lock
Texas Tech at Nevada Reno — TT After Harrell's 536 yards passing performance last week I expect him to break 500 yards again and lead the Red Raiders to victory again against a school I have never heard of before.

NCAA Upset
Rice at Memphis — Rice Rice did it for me last week so I am putting my quest for a perfect season in their hands. Hopefully, the touchdown tandem does it again this week in another non-BCS matchup.

NFL Lock
Jacksonville at Tenn. — Jack. Vince Young is overrated as an NFL quarterback and hopefully after this season the nation will finally take off their rose tinted glasses. Plus, Jacksonville always finds ways to win and finish second in the AFC every season.

NFL Upset
Minnesota at Green Bay — Minn I hate to say it but the Vikings have the best defensive line in the league which includes Jared Allen. The defensive line will give Aaron Rogers more pressure than he can handle.

Top 3 picks of the week

By Sydney Moore
Features Editor

In theaters this week — "Bangkok Dangerous," the new action flick starring Nicholas Cage ("National Treasure"), his theaters tomorrow. In the film, Cage plays Joe, a hit man, who is in Bangkok trying to pull off a series of jobs. As he spends more time there, he ends up falling for one of the local women and makes a few new friends along the way. With Cage's reputation for some of his previous roles, "Bangkok Dangerous" is likely to bring some thrill to the big screen.

New artist totally worth checking out — Unsigned artist, Never Shout Never, caught my attention on a recent surf through the MySpace music scene. Christopher Drew, 17, is the adorable guy behind the acoustic sound of "The Yipee" EP that is available on iTunes. The coolest thing about the shaggy-haired crooner is that he's semi-local. Drew hails from Joplin, Mo., giving him a little bit of the hometown feel to anyone from Missouri. His song, "Bigcitydreams" has been featured on MTV's TRL, and recently beat Lil' Wayne on a Springfield, Mo. radio station battle. His sound is a lot like the Jack's Mannequin, or Something Corporate type and his songs will easily get stuck in your head. Head to iTunes and support this local(ish) artist, and hopefully the guitar-playing cutie will get signed and we'll be seeing a lot more of him in the future.

Get your giggles — Comedian Bo Burnham has recently captured my heart. The 18-year-old funny man from Massachusetts has taken over YouTube with his variety of hilarious comedy rap videos. Thanks to the site, Burnham has generated a huge fan base and recently taped his first Comedy Central special. If you're searching on YouTube instead of doing your homework, check out videos such as "I'm Bo Yo" and "Bo Fo Sho," you definitely won't be disappointed.

Days rating (4 of 5)

Days rating (3 of 5)

Days rating (2 of 5)

Days rating (1 of 5)

Days rating (0 of 5)

Days rating (0 of 5)

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Days rating (0 of 5)

STROLLER

Your Man relinquishes keyboard

I feel sorry for my dog sometimes. She's old and lonely and outside of me she has no one to talk to. She sleeps 12 hours a day, which I know sounds like a sweet life, but it's also a sign of depression I'm frequently told by people who tell me I sleep too much.

I look at her and it seems she wants someone to tell her story. Since her owner happens to have the platform to deliver her story, he was happy to turn the keyboard over for a day in the life of an old fat dog.

I woke up with the usual routine, yawn, stretch, then go to the bathroom — on the dining room floor. The tall, white guy was reluctant to wake up so I jumped on him. For a second I thought I might have killed him and hid under the bed to avoid the police, but eventually his weird two-legged walk sounded under the bed and told me he was fine. For breakfast, the tall, white guy gave me, SURPRISE, Kibbles and Bits... again... for the 1037th day in a row. Does he not know how to make an omelet? After he went to work, or wherever he goes every day — he keeps telling me it's work, but I have no proof of that — the day got pretty exciting for me. First, I chewed on some shoes. Then, I laid on the air conditioning vent and finally, I designed an elaborate miniature-golf course throughout the entire



The Stroller

house only to realize I have no thumbs to operate my makeshift putter. I was heartbroken. That's four hours of my life I'll never get back. To console myself, I read and took a nap. When I woke up, the tall, white guy was back complaining about his day, as if he designed an entire putt-putt golf course only to have his dreams smashed. For dinner the guy served up quite a treat... Kibbles and Bits, but for dessert I swiped a tub of butter off the counter. I may be a little past my prime, but I can still move like a young Rin-tin-tin. Before I knew it, it

was time for bed again. Of course, I have no sense of time, nor the knowledge of how to read a clock so that happens a lot. The tall, white guy popped in a special movie he keeps under his bed. It must have been terrible though because he only watched it for about thirty seconds. I crawled under the bed to go to sleep and dream sweet doggy dreams of miniature golf and independence from the tall white guy's tyranny.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

COLUMN

Staffer dissatisfied with celebrities' political involvement

I'm going to say this once and for all: celebrities have no right being involved with politics. Being an entertainment nerd, I love what they do in Hollywood, but the last I checked, it is a long way from Washington. This year at the Democratic National Convention, a lot of stars showed up to support Barack Obama and to spread the message of voting. However, I have always felt there was a hidden agenda when it comes to celebrities getting involved with politics and showing up to these type of events.

First, let's decipher between getting politically involved and showing up to these red-carpet level events. There are plenty of celebrities like Angelina Jolie and Bono going to third world countries to see what they can



Brian Johnson
Entertainment Reporter

My real problem is certain celebrities show up to events like the Democratic National

Convention to get their faces shown such as Ashley Judd and Ben Affleck. Perception is reality in these celebrities' minds, and they think their fans will think very highly of them. Celebrities are just there for the attention first and foremost especially looking at the panel that attended.

Spike Lee was present on the floor. Are we really supposed to take this man seriously? During an interview with Bill Maher in 2005, Lee claimed the U.S. Government intentionally left black people to die in the rescue of Hurricane Katrina. You tell me how credible that guy is.

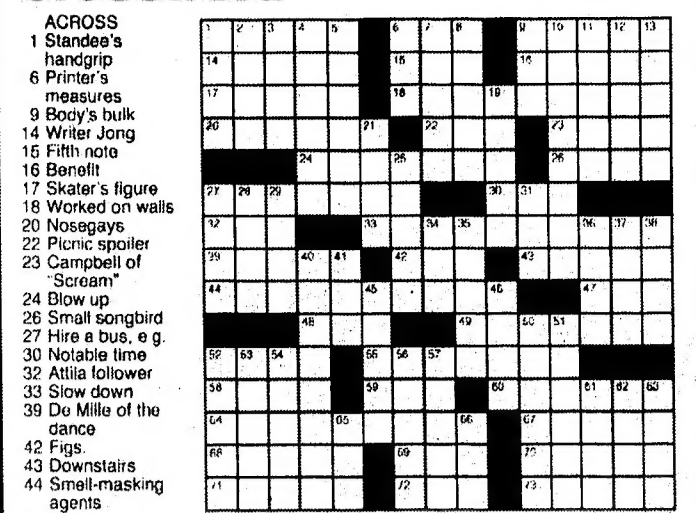
Kal Penn acted as a floor manager at the convention. Oh, you've never heard of him? He's Kumar from "Harold and Kumar"

movies. The convention's really reaching for the stars, no pun intended, when it comes to getting notable guests.

All joking aside, celebrities are meant to entertain us, not tell us what to do. I could care less if they are Republicans or Democrats, because their opinions do not influence me. I would also like to think others wouldn't let these celebrities influence their decision either.

The purpose of these conventions is to hear each party's platform and what they plan on doing for the country if their party is elected. That is what the people should be focused on. All these celebrities are doing is distracting people from the real issues by putting on a "look at me" show.

Crossword



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ACROSS	DOWN
1 Standee's handbag	1 Make lace
2 Printer's measures	10 Heat-resistant baking dishes
3 Body's bulk	11 Harder to find
4 Writer Jang	12 Sitting utensil
5 Fifth note	13 Ancient
6 Benelli	14 Scenic
7 Statue's figure	15 Luge or
8 Worked on walls	16 Robert or Alan
9 Noisome	17 Vacation slip
10 Noisome	18 Fight site
11 Noisome	19 Teacher of the
12 Noisome	20 Tremendous
13 Noisome	21 Downy
14 Noisome	22 CSA boy
15 Noisome	23 Organic
16 Noisome	24 Compound
17 Noisome	25 Robert or Alan
18 Noisome	26 Female sheep
19 Noisome	27 Frit out
20 Noisome	28 More painful
21 Noisome	29 Word in sequels
22 Noisome	30 Inventor's
23 Noisome	31 Travel course
24 Noisome	32 Clip
25 Noisome	33 Grinding tooth
26 Noisome	34 Precision by
27 Noisome	35 Deduction
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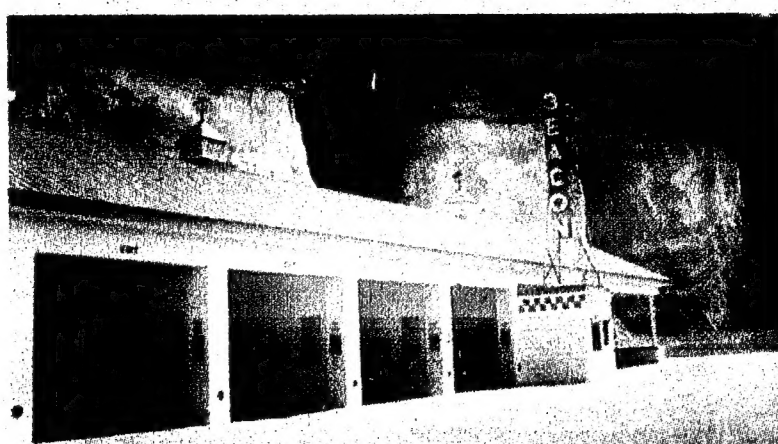
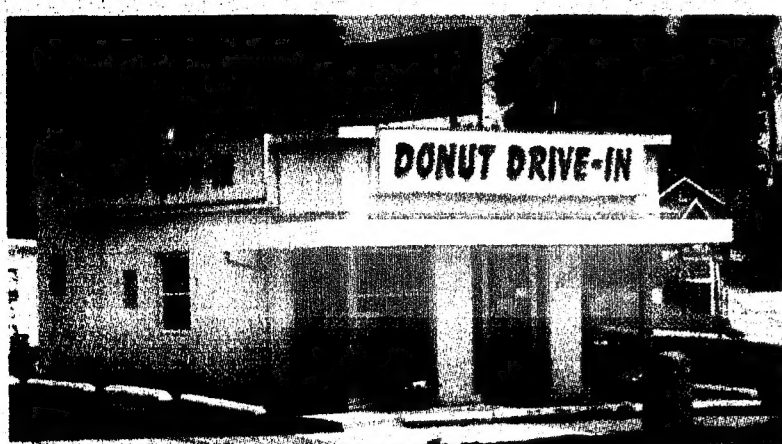
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NORTHWEST



The Open Road

Staffer travels Missouri's Route 66



all photos by dominic genetti | project manager

U.S. ROUTE 66 was 2,448 miles long stretching from Chicago to Los Angeles. Passing through eight states, New Mexico had the longest path of 487 miles and St. Louis was the largest city along the highway between the two cities. Route 66 was unincorporated in 1985 after being broken up by several interstates. Route 66 was the recent subject of the Disney Pixar Movie "Cars" and is also the nickname of a California minor-league baseball team, the Inland-Empire 66ers of San Bernardino.

By Dominic Genetti
Project Manager

The morning air was sticky and humid. Light fog filled the neighborhood, and the sun was an hour away from rising.

Some may find it odd to hear I made a trip from St. Louis to Springfield in five hours when it can really be done in four.

However, that's when you fly down Interstate-44 at 70 miles per hour. My trip to Springfield was different, I was traveling down America's most famous highway.

Route 66.

A left turn from my house in south St. Louis and a few blocks down the street, there it was, "The Mother Road," a name christened by travelers when car trips were popular.

There weren't a lot of cars on the road at 5 a.m., those that were had their headlights dimmed by the fog sitting on the ground.

Winding, curving and twisting, Route 66 took me into small cities and ghost towns that at one time thrived on travelers making their way from Chicago to Los Angeles.

It's not like the interstate where you get off at an exit turn left or right and enter a town. On Route 66, you go straight through it. No interchanges, no exit only lanes, just a simple road takes you on a journey.

As I made my way further west out from St. Louis, the fog grew thicker. It sat low to the ground like a graveyard scene in a cheap horror movie. In the distance old motel and restaurant signs cut through the heartland sky.

Years ago, they glowed, blinked and flashed in big letters and shiny neon lights. Simple words like "eat", "restaurant", "vacancy" and "motel" were used to attract hungry and tired motorists from a long day of scenic driving.

The name of the restaurant and motel didn't matter, after all, a bite to eat or a night's stay was just a break. What did matter was getting back on the road.

Rusty and faded, many of the signs are dark today. Some flicker struggling to stay lit while others hold onto the past promoting color TV and air conditioning.

Diners and restaurants sit abandoned or barely half full. Huge individual letters that once spelled out the business' name are missing. Their glass block windows are broken and vandalized.

Just outside Rolla, I came across a run down motel. Weeds, tall grass and unkempt bushes overcame its bathtub shaped swimming pool once filled with children attempting cannon balls while parents watched from picnic tables.

The sun begins to rise.

It looked like a fireball in the color-changing sky rising over tall trees atop Missouri's grand Ozark Mountains. Red, orange, blue; the clouds and fog vanished.

The day had begun.

Portions of Route 66 is the outer road of I-44, but when the road begins to wind you break away from loud sounds of 18-wheelers, diesel trucks and revved-up Hondas.

Coasting down the historic highway, my car sounded like a roaring crowd at a baseball game as the wind blew against it. Through woods and farmland, the road rises and falls while zigzagging with the land.

I couldn't tell where I was going. Was I heading west, south, southwest? The road kept twisting and changing direction. It was too hard to tell. It was like driving a paved river.

Upon entering Springfield, the road grew wider. From two lanes to four I was accompanied by more cars as I got closer and closer to journey's end.

Motels and restaurants occupy the strip and many of these are still open with steady business. It gave me an idea how things looked back when Route 66 was still a highway and not the unincorporated paths it is today.

Cars crowding motel parking lots, signs flashing atop diner roofs, local attraction billboards standing tall along the curb, I could almost imagine my 2000 forest green Malibu as its long turquoise mid-'50s predecessor with white wall tires and pointy red tail lights as doo-wop played on the turn dial radio.

It was a good place to end my ride, even though the road kept going.

